

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SY-02 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 SCCT-01 AF-04 PRS-01

PM-03 DODE-00 CCO-00 /042 W  
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O 271230Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1816

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 3115

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINT JM US

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY

REF: A KINGSTON 2739, B KINGSTON 2637, C KINGSTON 3066

1. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: I MET WITH PRIME MINISTER MANLEY JUL 23 AT HIS REQUEST. SITTING IN WERE FOREIGN MINISTER DUDLEY THOMPSON AND MY POLOFF. CONVERSATION CENTERED ON STATE OF EMERGENCY AND GOJ CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE DISRUPTION OF CARIFESTA BY MIAMI-BASED EXILE GROUP. THE FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF MEETING BY SUBJECT.

2. STATE OF EMERGENCY (SOE). PRIME MINISTER MANLEY WAS CONCERNED THAT THERE WAS SOME MISUNDERSTANDING IN THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS ABOUT THE REASONING BEHIND THE DECLARATION OF THE SOE AND SOME MISAPPREHENSION OVER ITS CONDUCT. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT ALBERT ROBINSON (REF A) HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH OUR EMBASSY AND THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION EARLIER THIS SPRING. MANLEY CLAIMED HE GAVE NO CREDENCE TO THE RAMBLINGS OF THIS "PSYCHOPATH" AND WISHED TO ASSURE ME THAT ROBINSON'S APPROACH TO THE JLP DID NOT TRIGGER THE SOE.

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3. TO ILLUSTRATE ROBINSON'S LACK OF CREDIBILITY,

THE PRIME MINISTER MENTIONED THAT ROBINSON AHD SHOWN A REVOLVER TO SEAGA'S PEOPLE WHICH HE CLAIMED WAS ONE OF THE MANY GUNS BEING DISTRIBUTED BY PNP GENERAL SECRETARY DR. D K DUNCAN. WHEN THE SERIAL NUMBER OF THE WEAPON WAS CHECKED OUT IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE GUN WAS LICENSED AND HAD BEEN GIVEN TO ROBINSON BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER. REFERRING TO PETER WHITTINGHAM, WHOM HE HAD IDENTIFIED AS ONE OF THE PRIMARY JLP PLOTTERS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, MANLEY CLAIMED THE NINE PAGES OF DETAILED HANDWRITTEN NOTES DISCOVERED IN HIS BRIEF CASE INDICATED THAT A SERIOUS ATTEMPT WAS BEING MADE TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT. ONE DOCUMENT ENTITLED THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEAGUE DENOUNCED THE PRIME MINISTER AS A COMMUNIST AND CALLED UPON THE POPULACE TO TAKE UP ARMS AGAINST THE PRIME MINISTER. WHITTINGHAM'S NOTES WENT SO FAR AS TO SUGGEST HOW WOMEN COULD BE USED TO BRING DOWN THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA. THE TACTIC, MANLEY ADDED, WAS REMINISCENT OF THOSE USED IN CHILE. HE CHARACTERIZED WHITTINGHAM AS A "TOUGH, SMART COOKIE" WHO REFUSED TO PROVIDE THE SECURITY FORCES ANY INFORMATION BEYOND, "NAME, RANK, AND SERIAL NUMBER".

4. MANLEY ASSERTED THAT THE SOE HAD BEEN IN PREPARATION FOR A LONG TIME AND THAT ITS LEADING ABTOCATES WERE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DAVID COORE, FICDNICAL ADVISOR HORACE BARBER, GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF JAMAICA G. ARTHUR BROWN AND GLADSTONE BONNICK HEAD OF THE NATIONAL PLANNING AGENCY. THEY HAD ADVISED HIM THAT THE DECLARATION OF THE SOE WAS IMPERATIVE "AS THE ECONOMY WOULD COLLAPSE" IF THE RAMPANT VIOLENCE WAS NOT SMASHED.

5. MANLEY CLAIMED THERE WAS A SMALL CLIQUE WITHIN THE JLP THAT HAD WANTED TO "MASH UP CONFIDENCE" AND BRING THE ECONOMY TO A GRINDING HALT. HE WANTED TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE WHOLE OF THE JAMAICA LABOR PARTY WAS NOT TAINTED BY THIS EFFORT  
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AND THAT THE REAL CULPRITS ARE THOSE PEOPLE WHO ALREADY HAVE BEEN DETAINED.

6. I THANKED THE PRIME MINISTER FOR THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE SOE, AS IT PUT THE ENTIRE SITUATION INTO BETTER PERSPECTIVE. I WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO HEAR HIS ASSURANCES THAT THE SOE WAS IN NO WAY POLITICALLY MOTIVATED AND THAT NORMAL

POLITICAL ACTIVITY WAS PROCEEDING UNENCUMBERED.

7. ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CIA. I TOLD THE PRIME MINISTER THAT DESPITE THE AGREEMENT I THOUGHT I HAD WITH HIM THAT PUBLIC REMARKS ABOUT THE CIA WOULD BE COOLED, FOREIGN MINISTER THOMPSON AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER COORE RECENTLY HAD DELIVERED INNUENDO LADENED STATEMENTS (REF B) INFERRING THAT THE CIA WAS WORKING AGAINST THE GOJ AND WAS OUTSIDE OF THE CONTROL OF THE USG. THOMPSON PLEADED THAT HE HAD BEEN MISQUOTED BY A REPORTER IN LONDON AND MANLEY FLATLY DENIED THAT COORE HAD INTENDED ILLWILL. THE PRIME MINISTER COMMENTED THAT IT WAS WELL KNOWN THAT THE CIA HAD A CAPACITY FOR GETTING OUT OF CONTROL, AS WAS WELL ILLUSTRATED IN CHILE. I REJOINED THAT THINGS HAD INDEED CHANGED AS A RESULT OF THE REVELATIONS ABOUT CHILE, AND THAT I HAD NO HESITATION WHATSOEVER IN CATEGORICALLY ASSURING HIM THAT THE CIA WAS BEING FIRMLY CONTROLLED AND WAS NOT ENGAGED IN ANY COVERT ACTIVITY AGAINST JAMAICA. DUDLEY THOMPSON INTERJECTED, "THEN WHY ARE THERE CONTINUAL REPORTS OUT OF WASHINGTON THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS TROUBLED BY CUBAN ACTIVITIES IN JAMAICA"? MY REPLY WAS THAT WE WERE NOT PREOCCUPIED WITH CUBAN-JAMAICAN RELATIONS BUT DID KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON CUBAN ACTIVITIES EVERYWHERE, GIVEN THEIR PROCLIVITY FOR INTERFERING IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THE ANGOLAN SITUATION HAD BEEN DISCUSSED ON SEVERAL PREVIOUS OCCASIONS AND I DID NOT WANT TO REHASH THAT SUBJECT BUT PREFERRED TO POINT TO PUERTO RICO AS AN EXAMPLE OF CUBAN INTERFERENCE. MANLEY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE

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NSCE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 SCCT-01 AF-04 PRS-01

PM-03 DODE-00 CCO-00 /042 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1817

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINGSTON 3115

LIMDIS

DIFFERED WITH THE CUBANS ON PUERTO RICO, STATING THAT IF JAMAICA HAD BEEN IN A SIMILAR SITUATION IT WOULD NOT HAVE CHOSEN THE STATUS ACCEPTED BY THE PUERTO RICANS. THEY HAD DONE SO, HOWEVER, IN A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC FASHION, U AND SO BE IT.

8. PLOTTING BY MIAMI-BASED EXILES. I TOLD THE PRIME MINISTER THAT AS A RESULT OF AMBASSADOR RATTRAY'S VISITS TO THE DEPARTMENT THE ENTIRE MACHINERY OF THE US GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN CRANKED UP TO INVESTIGATE THE REPORT OF ALLEGED PLOTTING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA BY MIAMI-BASED EXILES. THE LEADS WHICH HAD BEEN PROVIDED HAD BEEN INVESTIGATED AND WE HAD NOT COME UP WITH ANY CONCRETE INFORMATION THAT WOULD TEND TO SUBSTANTIATE THE ORIGINAL REPORT. I NOTED THAT SOME OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED WENT BACK TO JANUARY AND COMMENTED THAT WHILE WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN I WAS DISAPPOINTED THAT WE HAD BEEN BROUGHT INTO THE PICTURE SO LATE IN THE GAME. I HOPED THAT IF ANYTHING WENT AMISS DURING CARIFESTA WE WOULD NOT FIND OURSELVES IN THE POSITION OF BEING BLAMED BECAUSE OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH CONNECTIONS IN THE U.S. I INFORMED MANLEY THAT  
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WE WERE TAKING HIS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE VERY SERIOUSLY, THAT A TASK FORCE HAD BEEN SET UP IN WASHINGTON TO DEAL WITH IT, AND THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT SECURITY EXPERT HAD ARRIVED LAST NIGHT TO EFFECT CLOSE LIAISON WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD AN APPOINTMENT LATER IN THE MORNING TO DISCUSS THE ENTIRE SUBJECT IN MUCH GREATER DETAIL WITH MINISTER OF SECURITY MUNN.

9. MANLEY SAID HE WAS PLEASED WITH OUR RESPONSE AND HAD BEEN CONFIDENT HE WOULD RECEIVE 100 PCNT COOPERATION FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. HE CLAIMED IGNORANCE OF AMBASSADOR RATTRAY'S APPROACHES TO THE DEPARTMENT BUT SAID THAT HE WAS INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE. HE RELATED THAT CHIEF OF THE SPECIAL BRANCH CURTIS GRIFFITHS HAS COME TO HIM LAST FRIDAY, IN THE ABSENCE OF MUNN WHO WAS OFF ON A

FEW DAYS OF WELL-DESERVED LEAVE, WITH THE INFORMATION HE HAD RECEIVED FROM THEIR INFORMANT IN MIAMI. THE PRIME MINISTER HAD TOLD GRIFFITHS, AFTER HEARING HIM OUT, TO TAKE WHATEVER STEPS WERE NECESSARY TO GET THE U.S. GOVERNMENT INVOLVED. GRIFFITHS THEN DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT WITH BRIGADIER GREEN AND POLICE COMMISSIONER ROBINSON AND THEY OBVIOUSLY MUST HAVE DECIDED TO GET AMBASSADOR RATTRAY INVOLVED. MANLEY ADAMANTLY MAINTAINED THAT THE INFORMATION GRIFFITHS HAD PICKED UP WAS THE FIRST "OROPER LEAD" THEY AHD RECEIVED AND THAT THEY REALLY DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING SOLID TO COME TO US WITH UNTIL NOW.

10. BOMB EXPLOSION AT AIRPORT. I ASKED WHETHER ANY NEW INFORMATION AHD BEEN DEVELOPED ON THE EXPLOSION AT THE AIRPORT. MANLEY SAID THAT THEIR EXPERTS AHD DETERMINED THAT THE BOMB WAS A PLASTIC EXPLOSIVE DETONATED BY A TIMING MECHANISM. CID CHIEF LARRY TROUGHT BELIEVES THAT THE BOMB HAD BEEN PLACED IN THE LUGGAGE OF A FEMALE PASSENGER WHO WAS TRAVELLING HOUSTON-MIAMI-KINGSTON-HAVANA WHILE SHE WAS IN TRANSIT IN MIAMI. THEY THEORIZED THAT CUBAN EXILES HAD PLANTED THE BOMB IN THE LUGGAGE DURING

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THE MIAMI TRANSIT AND NOT IN KINGSTON BECAUSE OF THE PRE-SET TIMING MECHANISM WHICH DID NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LATE ARRIVAL OF THE AIRCRAFT AT KINSTON AND THE FACT THAT THE FEMALE PASSENGER WAS PREPARING TO BOARD THE AIRCRAFT AT THE TIME OF THE EXPLOSION.

11. I THANKED THE PRIME MINISTER FOR THE INFORMATION, EXPLAINING THAT IT PROVIDED SOME SPECIFIC LEADS FOR OUR OWN INVESTIGATION OF THE MATTER. WE HAD FRANKLY BEEN SURPRISED THAT UNTIL NOW WE HAD RECEIVED NO WORD DIRECTLY FROM THE GOJ ABOUT THE BOMBING INCIDENT, NOR ANY REQUEST TO ASSIST IN INVESTIGATING THE INCIDENT. MANLEY FEIGNED SURPRISE THAT WE HAD NOT BEEN INFORMED, CLAIMING THAT THE HAD AUTOMATICALLY ASSUMED THE SECURITY FORCES WOULD CONTACT US.

12. COMMENT: OUR MEETING WAS THE POOREST MANLEY PERFORMANCE I HAVE WITNESSED TO DATE. HE CONTRA-DICTED HIMSELF ON A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POINTS. HE TOLD ME THAT THE INFORMATION AMBASSADOR RATTRAY PROVIDED THE DEPARTMENT JULY 17 ABOUT ALLEGED PLANS FOR TERRORIST ACTIVITY BY MAIAMI-BASED EXILES

WAS THE FIRST "PROPER LEAD" HIS GOVERNMENT HAD PICKED UP, YET HE TOLD PARLIAMENT JUNE 22 THAT HE HAD INFORMATION GOING AS FAR BACK AS JANUARY INDICATING A CONSPIRACY THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE DISRUPTION OF CARIFESTA.

13. HE CONFIRMED THAT ALBERT ROBINSON WAS THE MYSTERY MAN CITED IN HIS JUNE 22 SPEECH THAT CAUSED HIM TO DECLARE THE SOE EARLIER THAN HE HAD INTENDED, BUT THEN DISMISSED ROBINSON AS A NO-BODY, "PSYCOPATH", WHO HAD NO INFLUENCE ON HIS DECISION TO DECLARE THE SOE.

14. THERE WAS AN ALICE IN WONDERLAND QUALITY TO THE CONVERSATION. ROBINSON, THE "PSYCHOPATH", TOLD THE OPPOSITION THAT HE HAD RECEIVED AN UNLICENSED WEAPON FROM PNP SEC GEN D K DUNCAN.  
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NO, THE PM ASSURES ME, THAT IS NOT TRUE, THE GUN WAS LICENSED AND GIVEN TO HIM BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER. I WAS TEMPTED TO ASK, BUT DID NOT, WHEN THE POLICE COMMISSIONER HAD STARTED DISTRIBUTING REVOLVERS TO PSYCOPATHS.

15. GIVEN MANLEY'S PREDISPOSITION TO BELIEVE WE ARE BEHIND ALL OF HIS TROUBLES AND THE KEYSTONE COP PERFORMANCE OF HIS SECURITY FORCES WHEN IT COMES TO HANDLING AND EVALUATING INTELLIGENCE, I BELIEVE WE MUST BE VERY CAREFUL AND SELECTIVE IN PASSING INFORMATION TO THE GOJ, LEST WE UNNECESSARILY INFLAME AN ALREADY NERVOUS AND PARANOIAC GROUP (REF C).

16. THERE SEEMS TO BE NO WAY THAT I OR ANYONE ELSE CAN PERSUADE MANLEY OF OUR BONA FIDES. DESPITE REPORTS TO THE CONTRARY, IT APPEARS THAT MANLEY INTENDS TO CONTINUE HIS ANTI-U.S. POLICY. THE ONLY QUESTION SEEMS TO BE THE FORM, AND DEGREE OF VIRULENCE WITH WHICH IT IS PURSUED. THE PUBLIC CAMPAIGN MAY ABATE, BUT RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH MANLEY, INCLUDING THIS ONE, GIVE ME THE STRONG IMPRESSION THAT HE IS LOOKING FOR SOME PRETEXT TO ATTACK OR DISCREDIT THE USG OR THIS EMBASSY.  
GERARD

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